

The Elba Clipper

Volume 111, Number 30

50 Cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, January 3, 2008

1 Section, 10 Pages

Looking back at the news and events from 2007

JANUARY 2007

Jan. 4 - The final phase of the levee rehabilitation project in Elba takes shape with clearing of Beaver Dam creek bed (Photo shows some of the clearing work that officials said would increase storage capacity for run-off water for storms). Elba City Schools upgrades school website; Several local citizens share their hopes and expectations for 2007.

Jan. 11 - Sheriff-elect Dave Sutton introduces several key administration appointees during Coffee County Commission meeting; U.S. Senator Richard Shelby visits Elba City Hall for an open public meeting; Coffee County Board of Education formally congratulates Kinston Lady Bulldog volleyball team during the January board meeting for winning the 1A state championship (Photo: County BOE recognizes board member Annette Griswold for reaching the Master Level for school board training).

Jan. 18 - Dave Sutton accepts oath of office Sunday, Jan. 14, as Sheriff of Coffee County (Photos: Coffee County District Judge Paul Sherdling administers the oath of office to Sutton; All officers with the Coffee County Sheriff's Department accept the oath of office following Sheriff Sutton); Sheriff Dave Sutton provides a "take control" message to prisoners at the Coffee County Jail Tuesday, Jan. 16, as a shake-down is conducted; The Town of New Brockton honors the late Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. with annual remembrance march.

Jan. 25 - Coffee County Commission approves request from Sheriff Dave Sutton to appropriate funds for his department for equipment upgrades and additional training for deputies; Prestwood Mill, located just off County Road 110, expected to soon be turning out fresh water ground cornmeal after years of sitting dormant; Elba Police urge citizens to watch for suspicious activity following several local burglaries of businesses; Elba Mayor James Grimes speaks to Lions Club members; During Elba City Council meeting, Police Chief Freddy Hanchey reports the loss of three officers from the department to the Coffee County Sheriff's Department.

FEBRUARY 2007

Feb. 1 - Elba Police Department present Phase I of a Women's Safety Course focused on sexual harassment, assault and rape prevention; A two-vehicle accident Thursday, Jan. 25, on Davis Street (U.S. Hwy. 84) in Elba involved an 18-wheeler and a Chevrolet GEO; A second accident of the day occurred Thursday, Jan. 25, on Davis Street in Elba. This accident involved three vehicles that collided at the Reddoch Hill intersection.

Feb. 8 - Elba Police arrest

Carl W. Howell of Elba on Tuesday, Feb. 6, in connection with two burglaries in Elba; Members of the Elba Volunteer Fire Department participate in a "live burn" training exercise using an abandoned home off Claxton Avenue near the Evergreen Cemetery; Elba Police ask for help in locating a John Deere "Gator" reported stolen from the Dorsey Trailers facility in Elba; Elba Police capture and arrest Phillip Oneal Musgrove of Elba in connection to the report of an attempted robbery of the Elba Shell convenience store; Coffee County Sheriff's Department arrests two suspects, Marcus Neal (charged with receiving stolen property third degree) and Timothy Dewan Council (charged with receiving stolen property second degree), in connection with several burglaries within the county.

Feb. 15 - Elba City Council votes to approve rate increase for sewer and residential garbage fees effective March 1st; Elba Water and Electric board voted to approve an increase in electric rates for residential and small commercial users; New Brockton Town Council approves new solid waste collection contract with Arrow Disposal; Building on the west side of the square set to be taken completely down to the ground due to structural problem; Coffee County young farmers Andy and Dixie Lavender named Alabama's 2007 Outstanding Young Farm Family; Coffee County EMA director John Tallas reviews county's outdoor warning siren program with Coffee County Commissioners.

Feb. 22 - Elba City Schools Board of Education votes in a split vote to renew the contract of head football coach Scott Rials; Fire destroys a home Friday, Feb. 16, on Coffee County Road 215; Tatiana Parker selected as AEC Youth Tour winner from Elba High School; Elba High School teacher Cal Donna Howard says former student Jamie Greek is a fine example for all people, especially those with disabilities.

MARCH 2007
March 1 - Dr. Joseph Meloni joins the Elba healthcare team and will open a family medicine practice Monday, March 5;

ceremony held at the Elba General Hospital and Nursing Home celebrating the opening of the new medical records, MRI and Therapy departments.

March 15 - Utility officials in Elba defend rate increases after higher bills prompt complaints from many citizens; The expected tearing down of a building due to structural problems on the west side of the square in Elba begins; Coffee County Commission votes to approve leave of absence for county administrator Wilson Mobley requested due to health related issues; During city council meeting, Elba Mayor James Grimes commends departmental heads for keeping expenses down; New Brockton Town Council votes to increase garbage service fees.

March 22 - Coffee County inmate Phillip Musgrove throws down his crutches, kicks off his shoes and temporarily escapes custody from corrections officers after making an appearance before the judge at the county courthouse in Elba - Musgrove was recaptured approximately 22 minutes after his escape; Resolution still being sought in Dorsey Trailers bankruptcy case; Elba Lions Club raises \$2,700 during annual pancake breakfast to assist Enterprise tornado victims; Enterprise students receive lesson from FEMA officials in building stronger, safer homes; George Edward Holloman of New Brockton arrested by officials and charged with two counts of sodomy first degree and two counts of sexual abuse of a child



The tornado that struck Enterprise Thursday, March 1, shook the entire county as nine lives were taken that afternoon including eight students at Enterprise High School.

One-vehicle wreck Thursday, Feb. 22, on Hickman Avenue (Hwy. 166) in Elba sends George W. Lewis of Bremen, Ala., to a Dothan hospital; One-vehicle wreck Friday, Feb. 23, on Hwy. 141 near Danley's Crossroads claims the life of Santiago DeLa Cruz Vazquez; Coffee County Schools selected as a 2007 A M S T I (Alabama Math, Science and Technology Initiative) school.

March 8 - Deadly tornado hits Enterprise Thursday, March 1, killing nine people including eight students at Enterprise High School; Coffee County Commission presents plaque of appreciation to county engineer Randy Tindell for 12 years of dedicated service; Ribbon cutting ceremony held at the Elba General Hospital and Nursing Home celebrating the opening of the new medical records, MRI and Therapy departments.

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April 5 - Former Coffee County Jail employee Ruth Schepe files formal complaint regarding her termination seeking damages in the sum of \$1 million; Two Elba businesses, Riverwalk Outfitters Inc. and Kids' Trends & Moms Unlimited, honored with ribbon cutting ceremonies; Officials with the Coffee County Sheriff's Department arrest Stacey Dawn Wallace Wise on the class "c" felony charge of chemical endangerment of exposing a child; New Brockton officials report heavy rains hinder progress on Tyler Street

less than 12-years-old, Elba Department of Parks and Recreation plans Family Easter Festival for Saturday, March 31.

March 29 - Coffee County Board of Education approves recommendation of Superintendent Dr. Linda Ingram to hire new principals and a special programs coordinator for the 2007-08 school year; Elba Elementary School hosts more than 70 educators/visitors to witness the school's reading program in action; Former county jail employee Ruth Schepe addresses county commission regarding her employment and March 6 termination; Drop-off site for Elba Recycle changed; City of Elba receives Gold Award from Workman's Comp. insurance carrier for having a lost time rate below 5 percent.

April 12 - Coffee County Commission votes not to renew contract of county administrator Wilson Mobley and to place him on administrative leave for the remainder of his current contract; Children all around searched for the "golden egg" during Easter egg hunts; Elba City Council approves fire department's request to purchase new truck; Coffee County Board of Education votes to hire three assistant principals for 2007-08 school year; St. Jude Trike-A-Thon event set for Saturday April 20, in Elba.

April 19 - Madeline Driggers, age 8, reacts quickly and responsibly following an accident outside her grandparents' house to help her grandmother Penny Driggers when a car begins to roll over Mrs. Driggers; Graduation ceremony held at the Enterprise Civic Center honoring Coffee County Youth Leadership students; Elba City Schools implement new emergency communications calling system; Coffee County recognized for best Farm-City committee in the state of Alabama.

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sale of Dorsey Trailers assets; The bell chimes again at the Coffee County Courthouse in Elba following successful repair work to return the courthouse clock to good working condition; Coffee County Board of Education completes administrative hires for the 2007-08 school year; Consultant Kathy Lolley, a certified public accountant, delivers her report to the Coffee County Commission after comparisoners voted during a Dec. 2006 meeting to hire Lolley to look at the books, procedures and internal control of the commission office and make recommendations

MAY 2007

May 3 - Elba's inaugural Rotary Club Golf Tournament exceeds expectations, raising more than \$4,000; Elba Police arrest Quinton Rashard Caldwell on charges of willful torture, child abuse and aggravated child abuse; Coffee County deputy assaulted during traffic stop on Highway 87 about six miles north of Elba; City of Elba receives funding for downtown enhancements.

May 10 - Thursday, May 3, fire damages a home at 1032 Gayton Street in Elba; Town of Kinston presents an American flag to employee Richard Johnson as he prepares to report for active duty in the Middle East with his National Guard unit; New Brockton Town Council holds first meeting at new town hall location (former Armory building); New postage rates to take effect Monday, May 14, including a two-cent hike of a First-Class mail stamp to 41 cents; Coffee County Lake set to reopen Friday, May 18, after being drained in 2005; Elba Fire Chief Danny Jordan offers safety tips for river boating/floating.

May 17 - Elba Police arrest Tommy Franklin Sheppard on two counts of rape first degree following a complaint by a 10-year-old female; Residents of Marilyn Street in Elba address Elba City Council regarding an ongoing sewage problem; Alabama State Trooper Willie White honored with banquet upon his retirement after 36 years of service; March 1st tornado in Enterprise unites resident Lillian Ward with 33 students from Indiana State University; U.S. District Judge Myron Thompson rules June 2, 1981 death sentence for Billy Joe Magwood after capital murder conviction of then Coffee County Sheriff C.F. "Neil" Grantham violated due process and must be overturned.

May 24 - Saturday, May 19, fire completely destroys home located at 1951 Taylor Mill Road in Elba; Alabama Attorney General Troy King announces conviction of Judy Thomas of Elba for 25 felony counts involving theft of \$11,611 in welfare benefits and possession of forged documents in a forgery of the probate judge's signature. Dedication ceremony held Sunday, May 20, for new Zion Chapel Senior Citizens Center; 15th Annual Coffee County Relay for Life event held Friday, May 18, in Enterprise; All 67 Alabama counties placed under a First Alert due to drought conditions.

May 31 - Coffee County Board of Education approves long list of personnel recommendation in preparation for 2007-08 school year; Graduation ceremonies high light the week; Coffee County Commission prepares to interview four applicants for county

hire three assistant principals for 2007-08 school year; St. Jude Trike-A-Thon event set for Saturday April 20, in Elba.

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Dave Sutton (right) began his term as Sheriff of Coffee County after accepting the oath of office Sunday, Jan. 14th.

A large crowd was in attendance Sunday, May 20, for the dedication ceremony of the new Zion Chapel Senior Citizens Center. It was a wonderful day for fellowship and celebration for the growing community.

EDITORIAL

BRAINSTORMS
With Ferrin Cox

One of our all time favorite writers, Samuel Clements who wrote under the name 'Mark Twain' is quoted as having observed, "Now is the accepted time to make your regular annual good resolutions. Next week you can begin paying hell with them as usual." Sorry sir we wised up years ago and refuse to promise things like New Year's resolutions which experience has shown seem never to be honored for long.

The new year is upon us and for this we should feel grateful. As a lady in front of the post office smiled and said right after Christmas, "Sure I am having a good day. I am still able to be here this morning." Now she has the right attitude and others should take notice.

Most of us have been disturbed by rude cell phone users getting or sending calls in meetings, at the movies, concerts or in crowded restaurants. A couple of weeks ago we witnessed a situation which topped them all. A teenage girl was propping on a car door down talking to another of her ilk. She also had a cell phone to her ear as did the girl in the car. So much for that, but the one standing in the parking lot had a second cell phone in her other hand and to and behold she was alternating her conversations between the two hand-held units... and apparently still coordinating everything with her friend in the car and the person on the other end of her phone call! As weird as that seemed, it was not intrusive into our life so "let 'em go."

Most of us accept the reality that young children quickly grasp the mechanics of computers much faster than adults. The brains of these youngsters appear to be pure sponge! It is no different with our grandchildren yet at times we are in awe with a seven year old and a four year old zipping through passwords, etc., and knowing where they are going on the web. Additional staff was added to the wounds Christmas Day when grandson talked us into playing the new Air Hockey game received for Christmas. Very quickly it was discovered that our hands were full! Actually the child won the first two games! Then we learned that hitting the puck hard and right down the middle was his weakness and won the third game. It was time to quit on that upbeat and turn our place over to a young person who could keep up and not feel intimidated by a four year old.

Elba Police Report

The Elba Police Department, beginning Monday, December 17, 2007, investigated the following incidents: one for public intoxication, two for possession of a controlled substance, one for possession of drug paraphernalia, one for a domestic dispute, three for theft of property, one for harassment, two for criminal trespassing, one for a welfare investigation, two for domestic violence, one for forgery, one for giving a false name, two for disorderly conduct, two for criminal mischief, one for a family dispute, two for damage to a vehicle, one for robbery, one for unlawfully carrying a pistol, one for assault, and one for recovered property.

The following arrests were made: two for public intoxication, two for unlawful possession of a controlled substance, one for possession of drug paraphernalia, one for distribution of a controlled substance, two for disorderly conduct, two for failure to appear, one for unlawfully carrying a pistol, one for domestic violence and one for harassment.

Traffic citations issued were as follows: one for an improper turn, one for stopping/parking in the roadway, two for a suspended driver's license, fifteen for speeding, one for no driver's license, two for a revoked driver's license, one for driver's license restrictions and one for reckless driving.

Daily activity highlights were as follows:

MONDAY, DEC. 17 - Coffee County EMS dispatched to 716 Simmons St. (5:04 a.m.); Elba Fire Department dispatched to a structure fire at 426 County Rd. 528 (10:30 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to a vehicle accident on County Rd. 114 (10:18 p.m.).

TUESDAY, DEC. 18 - Coffee County EMS dispatched to 1224 Reese Ave. (11:04 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 1175 Oak Ave. (7:37 p.m.).

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 19 - Disturbance (noise) reported on

IRS to handle returns in timely manner except for millions of Alternate Minimum Tax group filers

The Internal Revenue Service announced today that the upcoming tax season is expected to start on time for everyone except certain taxpayers potentially affected by late enactment of the Alternative Minimum Tax "patch."

Following extensive work in recent weeks, the IRS expects to be able to begin processing returns for the vast majority of taxpayers in mid-January.

However, as many as 13.5 million taxpayers using five forms related to the Alternative Minimum Tax (AMT) legislation will have to wait to file tax returns until the IRS completes the reprogramming of its systems for the new law.

The IRS has targeted Feb. 11, as the potential starting date for taxpayers to begin submitting the five AMT-related returns affected by the legislation. The February date allows the IRS enough time to update and test its systems to accommodate the AMT changes without major disruptions to other operations related to the tax season. As the IRS has said previously, it will take approximately seven weeks after the AMT patch was approved to update IRS processing systems completely.

Although as many as 13.5 million taxpayers will not be

Shuffling Through Our Files...

(News Taken From Past Editions of The Elba Clipper)

Jackson St. (4:31 p.m.); Two-vehicle accident reported at the intersection of Simmons and Adkinson streets (5:47 p.m.); Domestic dispute reported on Harris St. (10:18 p.m.).

THURSDAY, DEC. 20 - Minor two-vehicle accident reported in the parking lot of Elba MarketPlace (1:46 p.m.).

FRIDAY, DEC. 21 - Coffee County EMS dispatched to 754 County Rd. 119 (1:46 a.m.); One-vehicle wreck reported on Hwy. 189 N. (7:48 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 1644 County Rd. 107 (8:06 a.m.); Fight in progress, reported at Mulberry Park (8:00 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 1172 County Rd. 201 (9:36 p.m.).

SATURDAY, DEC. 22 - Coffee County EMS dispatched to 397 County Rd. 342 (9:21 a.m.); Disturbance (noise) reported near 1504 Edgewood Dr. (10:35 p.m.); Domestic disturbance reported at 1237 Jones Circle (10:45 a.m.).

SUNDAY, DEC. 23 - Domestic disturbance reported at 1210 Whitman St. (9:13 a.m.); Possible domestic disturbance (verbal) reported at the intersection of Putnam and Adkinson streets (2:09 p.m.); Disturbance (crowd) reported on Simmons St. (9:17 p.m.).

MONDAY, DEC. 24 - Possible powder reported at 835 County Rd. 401 (2:23 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 4223 County Rd. 305 (4:28 a.m.); Elba Fire Department dispatched to a trailer fire on Hwy. 189 N. (5:34 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 18602 Hwy. 125 (11:43 a.m.); Fight in progress reported at the hospital's emergency room (4:21 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 1233 Farris St. (7:44 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 1621 Caroline St. (8:27 p.m.).

TUESDAY, DEC. 25 - Coffee County EMS dispatched to County Rd. 360 (2:20 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 3727 County Rd. 349 (4:36 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dis-

patched to 715 Adams Ave. (7:06 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 712 Claxton Ave. (9:40 a.m.).

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 26 - Disturbance (unwanted guests) reported at 20668 Hwy. 87 N. (9:48 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 2363 Hickman Ave. (1:52 p.m.); Week reported at 513 Adkinson St. (5:17 p.m.).

THURSDAY, DEC. 27 - Disturbance reported at the inland convenience store (8:09 p.m.); Disturbance reported on Jackson St. (9:28 p.m.).

BULLETIN BOARD

• **ABUSING CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES THROUGH CHRISTMAS**, addition recovery ministry services - folkies, meet in Farm Center Baptist Church, Call 565-3970 or visit the website: www.institut.org

• **ALCOHOL & DRUG RECOVERY SUPPORT GROUP** - every Tuesday at 6 p.m. - Shiloh Baptist Church of Elba - Call 897-5857 for more information

• **SOCIAL SECURITY REP** - Consultation: 4th Tues. 2:30-3:30. This service will be discontinued after Nov. 27, 2007. Call FREE 1-800-772-1213 or visit the website at www.ssa.gov

• **ROTARY CLUB** - Tuesday @ Noon-First, Baptist Church Fellowship Hall

• **ELBA CITY COUNCIL** - 2nd & 4th Monday - 5:30 p.m. - City Hall

• **WATER & ELECTRIC** - Tuesday following 2nd Monday - 6 p.m. - City Hall

• **ELBA MINISTERIAL ASSN** - Tues. 8 a.m. Elba United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall

• **GREY SUPPORT GROUP** - every Monday 6:30 p.m. Elba United Methodist Church-enter on side on W. Davis St.-Maggie Carter Classroom

• **COFFEE COUNTY COMMISSION** - 2nd & 4th Monday - Community Room in Farm Center Complex @ New Brocton

• **LOANS CLUB** - 2nd & 4th Tues. 6:30 p.m. Senior Citizen Center

• **ELBA CITY SCHOOL BOARD** - 2nd Tues. 5:30 p.m. - Supp. Office

• **AMERICAN LEON** - 1st Tuesday of every month-7:30 p.m. Legion Hall, Troy Hwy.

• **MASONIC LODGE 170** - 1st & 3rd Monday of each month-7 p.m.

• **BAND BOOSTERS** - 1st Mon. - 7 p.m. Band Room @ Elba High School

• **VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER** - Mon-Fri. 8:12 a.m. to 12:30 - 430 New Brocton @ Farm Center Complex 894-5588

• **COFFEE COUNTY COON HUNTERS ASSN.** - 3rd Sat. - 3 p.m. - Club House

• **COFFEE REPUBLICAN WOMEN** - 3rd Wed. Noon - Po Folks, Enterprise

• **ELBA AIRPORT AUTHORITY** - 1st Thursday at 5 P.M., the FBO office at the Airport

• **AARP** meets every 3rd Tuesday night of the month

• **ELBA ATHLETIC CLUB** - 2nd & 4th Monday - 7 p.m. - Elba High boys locker room

• **NEW SEASONS STUDY CLUB** - Every 3rd Tuesday at 7 p.m.

• **ELBA KWANS CLUB** - 2nd & 4th Thursday - Noon - Elba Public Library

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• **ELBA KWANS CLUB** - 2nd & 4th Thursday - Noon - Elba Public Library

• **COFFEE COUNTY COON HUNTERS ASSN.** - 3rd Sat. - 3 p.m. - Club House

• **COFFEE REPUBLICAN WOMEN** - 3rd Wed. Noon - Po Folks, Enterprise

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HELP WANTED: PART TIME DELIVERING Enterprise Ledger and Dothan Eagle to local area. Call 897-2780. Must have reliable vehicle. 1-3-2ip

THE COFFEE COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT is accepting applications for EQUIPMENT OPERATOR II. Applicants must have a valid drivers license (CDL Preferred). Benefits include: paid vacation, sick leave, health insurance, holidays, and State retirement. Starting pay \$10.29 per hour. Closing date: January 3, 2008. Please apply at the Alabama Employment Service, Enterprise, AL. Coffee County in a Equal Opportunity Employer. 12-20-3c

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FOR SALE BY OWNER: 3 BR, 2 Bath, Ranch Style Brick Home in Elba. 2 Car Enclosed Garage, 32 Ft. Covered Patio, Large Workshop & Storage Building, Lot 125 Ft. x 200 Ft., Nice Neighborhood, \$78,500 or Best Offer. (334)347-5492 For Appointment. 12-20-2c

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NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY ADMINISTRATOR OR EXECUTOR

ESTATE OF RUBY D. JOHNSON, DECEASED

PROBATE COURT PC-07-061

Letters Testamentary of said deceased having been granted to the undersigned the 20th day of December, 2007, by the Hon. William Gammill, Judge of the Probate Court of Coffee County, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

/s/ Alan Johnson, Executor
Personal Representative
12/27, 1/3, 10-pd.

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS FEDERAL AID PROJECT NO. STPTE-05 (932) CITY OF ELBA COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA

SEALED BIDS WILL BE RECEIVED BY THE CITY OF ELBA AT THE ELBA CITY HALL, ELBA, ALABAMA, UNTIL 2:00 P.M. Local Time, Thursday, January 10, 2008, AND AT THAT TIME PUBLICLY OPENED FOR CONSTRUCTION OF THE FOLLOWING:

CITY SQUARE SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENTS IN THE CITY OF ELBA

THE BRACKET ESTIMATE ON THIS PROJECT IS FROM \$400,000 TO \$450,000. THE PRINCIPAL ITEMS OF WORK ARE APPROXIMATELY AS FOLLOWS:

1632 REMOVING CONCRETE SIDEWALK, per square yard

957 REMOVING CURB, per linear feet

1638 CRUSHED AGGREGATE BASE COURSE, TYPE B, PLANT MIXED, 6" COMPACTED THICKNESS, per square yard

3000 STEEL REINFORCEMENT, per pounds

1655 COMBINATION CURB & GUTTER, TYPE C, (MODIFIED), per linear feet

1638 CONCRETE SIDE-

HELP WANTED-DRIVERS

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SCHOOLS

Announcements:

• January 4 Elba vs. Straughn (Home)
• January 8 Elba vs. New Brockton (Home)
• January 11 Elba vs. Pike County (Home)
• Grad Ads are on sale! Prices are as follows: \$50 for 1/8 page black and white or \$55 color; \$90 for 1/4 page black and white or \$100 color; \$110 for 1/2 page black and white or \$125 color; \$160 for full page black and white or \$180 color. The ads will remain on sale through February. This will be the final deadline.

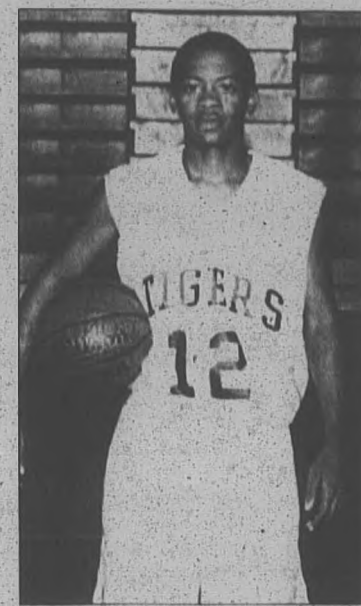
• Yearbooks are available for pick-up and extras are on sale for \$45. Contact the journalism staff at EHS for more information. Extras will remain on sale. Only a few remain.
• Elba Hoodies and T-shirts are in and available for pick-up. A few extras are available. Long-sleeve T-shirts are \$12 and \$13 and Hoodies are \$20, \$21 and \$22. Contact the journalism staff.

SUPPORT OUR YOUTH, SCHOOLS & EDUCATION!

Tigers defeat Kinston Bulldogs in basketball

by Erica Daniels

The Elba Tigers battled the Kinston Bulldogs both at home



Kareem Siler was the lead scorer for the Tigers against the Kinston Bulldogs

Elba Junior Varsity defeats Zion Chapel

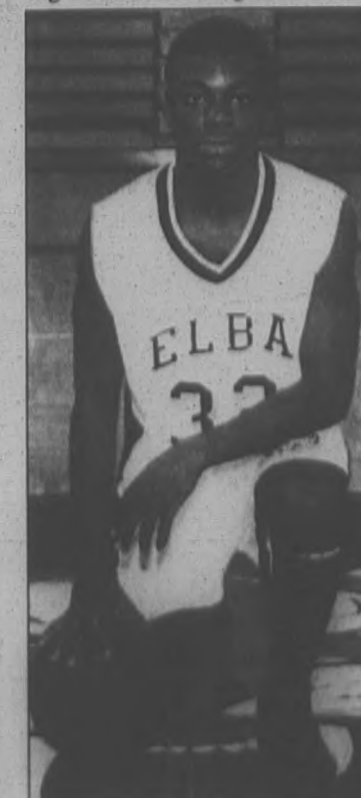
by Kiera Robertson

On Thursday, Dec. 13, the Junior Varsity boys basketball team ended their season with a victory over the Zion Chapel Rebels.

The boys began with a total of 23 points in the first half, with leading scorers Thomas Cole and Donta Rogers. The team had a rough start, with 21 personal fouls, but they pulled off the win and came out on top with a 30 to 23 win.

Throughout the game eighth grader Donta Rogers led the team with 9 points and Thomas Cole led with 6 points.

The junior varsity basketball team ended the season with a record of 11 and 12, not including the tournament games!



Donta Rogers led the JV Tigers in scoring against Zion Chapel

Tiger Tales

Editors:
Erica Daniels & Kelly Corder

Journalism Spotlight

by Kelly Corder

This week's journalism spotlight shines on Charla Maisie Thomas.

Maisie is the 16-year-old daughter of Freddie and Deanne Thomas. Her hobbies include being a varsity cheerleader and a member of the EHS Marching Band's dance line, playing the piano, hanging out with her friends and family, and shopping.

When asked her favorite part about being a journalism member, Maisie replied, "I like being able to take pictures and help out with our school's yearbook."

She describes herself as outgoing and willing to help anyone in need.

Maisie's plans after graduation include going to Troy for



Maisie Thomas

two years to get her bachelors and then transferring to the University of Alabama at Birmingham to get her degree in physical therapy.

When the Tigers traveled to Kinston, the Bulldogs were determined for revenge against the Tigers, so during the first half the Bulldogs led 45-40. The second half saw the Tigers escaping, which led to a score of 65-58.

Kareem Siler led the Tigers with 23 points, while Keenan Phillips added 14 points.

The Lady Tigers battled the Kinston Bulldogs at home and came out determined to defeat the Bulldogs.

The Lady Tigers led early 15-6, and in the second quarter they added 20 points, which led to a score of 35-6 and a big halftime advantage. At the end of the third quarter, the score was 52-



LeAnna Henderson was the top scorer for the Lady Tigers in the victories over Kinston

28.

LeAnna Henderson led the team with 11 points, while Shanika Pruitt added 10.

The Lady Tigers traveled to Kinston and started off with a lead with 14-9. The Lady Tigers extended their lead, to 41-29. LeAnna Henderson scored 17 points, while Shanika Pruitt added 16, and Janae Carley added 11.



LeAnna Henderson was the top scorer for the Lady Tigers in the victories over Kinston

GETTING READY FOR SECOND SEMESTER (by Kim Blue). Students at Elba High are extremely excited about second semester. Before school dismissed for the winter break, students received their schedules for second semester. After the Christmas holidays, students will change classes and take classes they have not already taken—just a reminder to parents out there: students will be getting report cards once classes resume after Christmas. Also, they will have a new set of teachers, a new set of rules, requirements, supplies, etc. Look for these items after New Years!

Don't Forget to

recycle

Elba Elementary hosts "Deal or No Deal" for students

by Kelly Corder

On Wednesday, Dec. 12, the Elba Elementary School hosted the Deal or No Deal game for the students.

The game being hosted was a reward for the students who helped with their fundraiser. The students who sold at least 3 of their Christmas items got to put their names into a box.

Just like the game, the "dealer" chose a random student's name from the box to play the game.

Trenton, the student who became the player, was allowed to choose 26 cases. He chose case #4 and then began to play "Deal or No Deal."

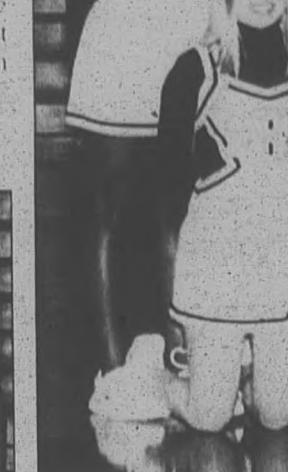
Trenton continued to choose until he had only five cases left, with the highest money prize left to win being \$80. He sold his case to the banker for

\$40, and the dealer said, "Trenton, you made a wonderful deal!" Trenton then saw that he had only \$3 in his case.

During the "commercial breaks," the dealer would draw random names out of a box, and

the students won a prize. The prizes included things such as Kudos Bars and Fruit Gushers.

The students had a great time and were very interested throughout the game.



LeAnna Henderson was the top scorer for the Lady Tigers in the victories over Kinston

Mr. Tom Maddox visits fifth grade class at EES

Submitted by Michelle Grimes
Edited by Kelly Corder

On Sept. 14, Mrs. Michelle Grimes' fifth grade class had the opportunity to visit with another of their favorite people, Mr. Tom Maddox, Elba Elementary's music and band director.

The class was eager to listen to him share about his summer experience in Guyana, South America. Accompanied by a group of fellow volunteers, Mr. Maddox was able to share the good news of the gospel of Jesus Christ with the local people of Moca Moca, Guyana.

Mr. Maddox prepared a Power Point presentation to better illustrate his experience to the students. Since so few get to go so far from home, the class members were all very interested in what he told about the country and it's local people, culture, and unusual challenges they met.

The students were especially intrigued by the school system and the unusual snakes. Mr. Maddox described. Everyone was so happy that the volunteers went and came back safely to Elba.

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SPORTS

Views from....

THE PRESSBOX

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

Another year has come and gone, and while many people ring in the New Year with parties and music, this 'ole Dad prefers a quiet night at home with the family and maybe a chance to sleep in a little while the next morning. I rarely ever stay up past the news at 10 o'clock and the strongest thing I drink is weak old tea. So, staying up until midnight is quite a feat in itself, even if it only comes once a year. Oh well, Happy New Year!

FOR WHAT IT IS WORTH....

*** The Elba Lady Tigers upped their record to 9-5 last week as they posted wins over Opp and Kinston to bring home the championship in the Opp Christmas Tournament. The Tigers have now won seven of their last eight games, and with the area schedule coming up in the weeks to come I am sure Coach Johnson has high hopes that his team will continue its winning ways and be a contender for the area crown. The biggest news last week was Elba's 93-point explosion against Kinston. The Tigers had scored 93 points with over two minutes left on the clock and many fans wanted the Tigers to "bust the clock." However, the Tigers simply held on for the big win and celebrated winning the tournament with their third win over the Bulldogs this season.

*** The Elba Lady Tigers brought home the second place trophy from the Opp tournament with a big 26-point win over Kinston and in doing so claimed their fifth win of the season. Coach Peacock has whined about his team from the beginning of the season and may have fooled some folks, but after a 5-7 start it is now coming clear that the Lady Tigers are much better than he has let on and may be a team to watch as the season rolls along.

*** A look around the area found most of the teams busy over the holidays taking part in tournaments. Up in Brantley, both the Bulldogs and Lady Bulldogs advanced to the finals of the Red Level Invitational with two big wins, while over in New Brockton the Gamecocks saw a late rally fall short as they were eliminated in the opening round of the Dothan Downtown Hoops Classic. Down in Kinston, the Bulldogs and Lady Bulldogs both lost two games in Opp to place third, while the boys and girls at Zion Chapel got in some practice as they look forward to getting back on the court.

*** In closing... This week's paper is being printed early, which means I don't know the outcome of the Red Level Invitational. Look next week for complete results and game coverage of both the Brantley Bulldogs and Brantley Lady Bulldogs.

Three area players named to All-State football teams by Alabama Sports Writers

The Alabama Sports Writers Association announced its 2007 "All-State" high school football teams last week and included on the honored list were two members of the Brantley Bulldogs and one member of the New Brockton Gamecocks.

Brantley players named to the "Class 1A" list included Chase Haws, a 6-0, 245-pound, senior, offensive lineman, and Dexter Daniels, a 6-2, 215-pound, senior, linebacker. Named to the Class 2A list was New Brockton's Dashawn Vasser, a

6-3, 315-pound, junior, offensive lineman. Elba's Trey Martin, a senior, quarterback, received Honorable Mention in Class 3A, while Brantley's Anthony Guley, a junior, athlete, received Honorable Mention in Class 1A.

Enterprise kicker Parker Stonett was a first team selection to the 6A team, while Wildcats Jamey Fortner and LeHill Shirley both received Honorable Mention.

From Opp tournament

Elba Tigers take home title

The Elba Tigers pulled ahead late in the opening quarter and then slowly pulled away the Thursday night to pound the Kinston Bulldogs 93-69 to win the championship of the Opp Christmas Tournament, held at Opp High School.

The win upped Elba's record to 9-5, while Kinston's record slipped to 6-7 with the loss.

Kinston jumped out to an early 6-4 lead on a basket by Aaron Jacobs and owned a 12-9 lead with 3:15 remaining in the first quarter when Tim Donaldson nailed a running jumper in the lane. The Bulldogs' lead grew to 15-11 with 2:25 left in the period on a free throw by A.J. Johnson and it appeared Kinston was in command as the Tigers moved back ahead 28-22 with 6:24 remaining in the half. A three-point by Elba moved on top 21-17 with only seconds left on the clock.

Aaron Jacobs drilled a long three-pointer to end the first quarter and Kinston's Tim Donaldson added two free-throws early in the second quarter to put the Bulldogs back on top 22-21, but Kareem Silar scored five quick points on a three-pointer and a short jumper as the Tigers moved back ahead 28-22 with 6:24 remaining in the half. A three-point by Elba's Channing Morris and the two cross-county rivals swapped baskets over the closing minutes of the half as Elba went in at intermission with a 47-37 advantage.

The Tigers opened the third quarter with an 11-2 run to grab a 58-39 lead with 6:11 left on the clock and began to take

command as a three-pointer by Kareem Silar with 2:42 remaining upped Elba's lead to 67-46. Kinston rallied slightly late in the stanza and pulled to within 69-53 on a three-pointer by Hunter Anderson, only to see the Tigers carry a 71-53 lead into the fourth quarter after a late basket by Jordan Bryant.

Elba's lead grew to 75-53 early in the final stanza on a bucket by Jordan Bryant, and the Tigers owned an 83-60 lead with 4:26 left after a steal and lay-up by Bryant. Kinston's Matt Whigham hit a short jumper with 4:12 left on the clock, but Quenton Caldwell and Trey Belcher sparked a 10-0 run as Elba's lead ballooned to 93-62 with 2:10 still left in the game. The Tigers failed to score in the final two minutes, and while Kinston closed the game with a 7-0 run, it made little difference as the Tigers claimed the tournament title with the lopsided 93-69 win.

Channing Morris poured in 32 points to lead Elba, while Kareem Silar added 19 and Trey Belcher scored 10. Matt Whigham scored 17 points to lead Kinston, while Hunter Anderson added 12. Aaron Jacobs 11 and Tim Donaldson 10.

E 21 26 24 22 - 93
K 20 17 16 15 - 69

Elba (93): Hudson 2, Harrelson 8, Silar 19, Cooks 7, Belcher 10, Morris 32, Caldwell 7, McBride 4, Gray 4.

Kinston (69): Jacobs 11, Whigham 17, Johnson 8, Davis 2, Donaldson 10, Anderson 12, Moss 3, Wise 2, Cosby 2, Rachel 3.

Elba drops Opp with buzzer beater 44-42

Elba's Trey Belcher hit a short jumper at the buzzer last Wednesday night to lift the Tigers to an exciting 44-42 win over the Opp Bobcats in the opening round of the Opp Christmas Tournament, held at Opp High School.

Elba couldn't find its way to the basket early in the game and trailed 8-0 before the Tigers finally got on the scoreboard with 4:27 remaining on a baseline jumper by Aaron Harrelson. Harrelson's basket sparked a 10-0 run as the Tigers grabbed a 10-8 advantage with 2:38 left in the quarter, however, Elba needed a late score and a free-throw by Richard Cooks to carry a slim 13-12 lead into the second period.

Elba upped its lead to 16-12 early in the second quarter on a basket by Channing Morris and a free-throw by Aaron Harrelson, and took its biggest lead of the half at 26-17 with 1:29 left on the clock on an inside bucket by Jordan McBride.

Opp scored the final five points of the second quarter to cut the Elba lead to 26-22 at intermission, and the Bobcats took advantage of Tiger turnovers and missed scoring opportunities to pull even at 32-32 late in the stanza. Jordan McBride hit the back

end of a one-and-one free-throw with :04 remaining in the quarter to send the Tigers into the fourth quarter with a 33-32 advantage, and Elba's lead grew to 35-32 with 6:53 remaining after a driving lay-up by Gavin Respress. Opp scored the stanza's next six points to take a 38-35 lead with 4:43 on the clock, but the Tigers answered the Bobcat rally and converted on 4 of 8 free-throw chances over a three-minute span to regain the lead at 39-38.

The Bobcats went back on top 40-39 with 1:27 left, but didn't score again for almost a minute as they needed a basket with :38 remaining to tie the score at 42-42. Elba set up the game's final shot and the Tigers' pulled off the win as Trey Belcher drilled a shot jumper at the buzzer to give Elba the wild 44-42 win.

Richard Cooks scored 13 points to lead Elba, while W.C. Lane led Opp with 12 points.

E 13 13 7 11 - 44
O 12 10 10 10 - 42

Elba (44): Respress 6, Harrelson 5, Silar 2, Bryant 2, Cooks 13, Morris 6, McBride 6, Belcher 4.

Opp (42): Wilson 9, Free 5, Colston 6, Lacey 2, Jones 4, Lane 12, T. Lane 4.



Elba Tiger Gavin Respress (4) splits two Opp defenders to score a basket in the Tigers' opening round win over the Bobcats in the Opp Christmas Tournament. (Photo by Mike Capps)



Elba Tiger Aaron Harrelson (10) looks to pass to a teammate in last week's tournament win over the Opp Bobcats. Elba upped its record to 9-5 with two wins in the tournament. (Photo by Mike Capps)

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

Thursday, January 3
Zion Chapel at New Brockton (JV-VG-VB) 4:30

Friday, January 4
Providence Christian at Kinston (VG-VB) 6:00

Sanders Motorcycle Shop
94 County Road 224
Elba, AL 36323
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G.W. Long at New Brockton (JV-VG-VB) 4:30

Monday, January 7
Samson at New Brockton (JV-VG-VB) 4:30

Tuesday, January 8
New Brockton at Elba (JV-VG-VB) 4:30
Zion Chapel at Arton (JV-VG-VB) 5:00

Support high school basketball with your attendance at the games... Remember, empty seats don't pay the bills!

SPORTS

In Opp tournament

Elba Lady Tigers settle for second

The Elba Lady Tigers claimed runner-up honors in last week's Opp Christmas Tournament by rolling to a big 62-36 win over the Kinston Lady Bulldogs, Thursday night at the Opp High School gym.

The Lady Tigers improved their record to 5-7 with the win, while the Lady Bulldogs' record slipped to 3-9 with the loss.

Kinston came out ready to play and jumped out to an early 5-0 lead on a basket by Christie Whigham and a lay-up and free-throw by Deanna Manning. A three-pointer by Elba's Shanika Pruitt sparked a 6-0 run as the Lady Tigers grabbed a 6-5 lead with 4:40 remaining in the opening stanza, while Janae Carley and Leanna Henderson sparked a late 8-0 run to enable Elba to carry an 18-9 advantage into the second quarter of play.

The Lady Tigers upped their lead to 22-9 early in the second quarter on baskets by Jacquetta Whitfield and Leanna Henderson, only to see Kinston battle back midway through the stanza and pull within 26-18 with 3:56 left on the clock behind the inside and outside scoring punch of Christie Whigham. Elba regained command at 34-18 with 1:29 left after a quick 8-0 run, and at intermission the Lady Tigers went in with a 36-21 advantage.

Elba's Janae Carley and Shanika Pruitt combined for seven points early in the third quarter as the Lady Tigers extended their lead to 43-23, and the two cross-county rivals swapped baskets the remainder of the quarter as Elba owned a 49-34 lead heading into the final stanza.

Kinston's Deanna Manning hit two free-throws early in the fourth quarter to pull the Lady Bulldogs within 49-36. However, the two free-throws were the only points Kinston

would score in the quarter, while Elba caught fire late and led by the play of Janae Carley and Jacquetta Whitfield the Lady Tigers pulled away to post the big 62-36 tournament win.

Shanika Pruitt scored 18 points to lead Elba, while Janae Carley added 16, Jacquetta

Whitfield 12 and Leanna Henderson 11. Deanna Manning scored 16 points and Christie Whigham added 14 to lead Kinston.

E 18 18 13 13 - 62
K 9 14 11 2 - 36

Elba (62): Whitfield 12, Henderson 11, Pruitt 18, Coleman 2, Cross 2, Carley 16, Caldwell 1.

Kinston (36): Dean 4, Whigham 14, Manning 16, Chance 2.

Lady Tigers drop opener to Opp 62-28

The Elba Lady Tigers tipped off the Opp Christmas Tournament last Wednesday afternoon at the Opp High School gym and never really threatened to claim a win as they lost to the highly touted Opp Lady Bobcats 62-28.

Opp jumped out to an early 6-0 lead to take command, only to see Elba stage a mild rally and pull to within 7-4 with 4:15 remaining in the opening stanza on a pair of free-throws by Leanna Henderson and a basket by Jacquetta Whitfield. The Lady Tigers didn't score again for over three minutes; however, and by the time Janae Carley hit the back end of a two-shot free-throw with :55 left on the clock the Lady Bobcats owned a 17-5 advantage.

Ashley Carpenter closed the first quarter with two free-throws and then added two more free-throws early in the second quarter as Elba pulled within 21-9, but Opp answered with an 8-0 run to open up a 29-9 advantage with 5:37 remaining in the half and at intermission carried a big 38-15 lead into the dressing room.

The Lady Bobcats scored ten straight points to open the third quarter as their lead grew to 48-15, and while Elba's Ashley Carpenter and Janae Carley combined for seven points in the final minutes, it only changed the score slightly as Opp owned a 51-22 lead at the end of the stanza.

The teams swapped baskets in the fourth quarter and Opp closed the game with a 4-0 run as the Lady Bobcats pulled away to claim the big 62-28 win over the Lady Tigers.

Ashley Carpenter scored 10 points to lead Elba, while Sharee Stephens scored 11 points to lead Opp.

O 20 18 13 11 - 62
E 7 8 7 6 - 28

Opp (62): Harrison 6, Henderson 5, Stephens 11, Rhymes 7, Foster 1, Drew 8, Hickman 4, Ellison 7, Polmar 9.

Elba (28): Whitfield 6, Henderson 4, Carpenter 10, Pruitt 4, Carley 4.

Gamecocks ousted in Downtown Hoops Classic

The New Brockton Gamecocks competed in the second annual Downtown Dothan Hoops Classic last week at the Dothan Civic Center and saw a late rally fall short as they were defeated in the opening round of the sixteen-team tournament 63-59 by the Seminole County Indians.

The Gamecocks came out ready to play and surprised Seminole County by grabbing a 10-8 lead first quarter advantage. The Indians moved on top 15-12 midway through the second quarter, but New Brockton rallied and regained the lead at 20-18 with 2:17 left in the half on a basket by Justin Flowers. Seminole County had an answer for the Gamecock rally, however, and closed the quarter with a 12-3 run to carry a 30-23 lead in at the half.

Seminole County remained in charge early in the third quarter and owned a 38-29 lead midway through the stanza, only to watch the Gamecocks stage another rally and pull within 38-36 with 2:59 left on the clock. The Indians closed the quarter with a 12-2 run to carry a 50-38 lead into the fourth quarter, and remained in command for much of the final stanza as their lead stood at 63-50 with 1:24 left on the clock. The Gamecocks' Dadian Johnson sank four free-throws to cut the Indians lead to 63-59 with :49 remaining, while Justin Flowers added a basket with :19 remaining to pull the Gamecocks within 63-56. New Brockton had hopes for a wild comeback when Shambay Johnson drilled a three-pointer with :10 left on the clock to cut the Seminole County lead to 63-59, but the late rally ran out of time as the Gamecocks fell by the final score of 63-59.

Justin Flowers scored 22 points to lead New Brockton, while Dadian Johnson and Shambay Johnson both added 12 points. Tavus Williams led Seminole County with 18 points.

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Andalusia/MacArthur
January 9, 2008
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CLASSES BEGIN
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administrator's position; Congressman Terry Everett votes for passage of agriculture disaster assistance.

JUNE 2007

June 7 - Cities of Elba and Geneva officially dedicate completed levee rehabilitation projects during ceremony in Elba; Walking trail atop Elba levee officially named the James E. Grimes Riverwalk Trail; Pitts Enterprises given court approval to buy Dorsey Trailers; Three Enterprise men (Douglas Mitchell Gatlin, Joe Ben Thomas and Stephen Daniel Ramsey) arrested by county officials following a burglary in the Damascus community south of Elba; Alabama Attorney General announces plans to appeal court ruling of U.S. District Judge Myron Thompson regarding Billy Joe Magwood case; Elba City Council votes no to a proposed \$1.50 per hour pay raise for police officers; County officials arrest Kelli Nicole Champion Huxey on one county of rape first degree, one county of sodomy first degree and one county of rape second degree.

June 14 - Coffee County Commission votes to hire Kathy Lolley as new county administrator; Elba Rotary Club plans auction fund raising event to benefit community service project to build a new Habitat for Humanity home in Elba; Coffee County Board of Education tables discussion regarding increase in salary for Superintendent Dr. Linda Ingram; Ribbon cutting ceremony held for Felicity's Christian Book and Gift in Elba; Elba City Council members hear complaints regarding loud music.

June 21 - Federal grant of \$1,597,500 allocated for Elba airport project that will include reconstruction of the runway; David Dorsey hired by Pitts Enterprises to serve as general manager for "new" Dorsey Trailers; Coffee County Jail inmates yield garden filled with fruits and vegetables; Elba Police make several arrests on various charges; Tyler Street project in New Brockton nears completion according to town officials.

June 28 - Jeff Pitts, president of Pitts Enterprises, officially announces the purchase of Dorsey Trailers in Elba; Jeff Pitts, president and owner of Pitts Enterprises, and David Dorsey, general manager of Dorsey Trailers (purchased by Pitts Enterprises), serve as the guest speakers at the Elba Rotary Club meeting; Elba officials receive report from ISO inspection that results in no change for city's rating; Elba officials say water supply remains good despite drought conditions; Coffee County Sheriff Dave Sutton reports recent shakedown of county jail reveals very little contraband found in the facility.

JULY 2007

July 5 - Coffee County Board of Education awards pay raise to Superintendent Dr. Linda Ingram; Members of the Elba

Volunteer Fire Department

conduct "fill the boot" drive to benefit Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA); Coffee County resident Jason Senn pleads guilty to two counts of manslaughter for the 2006 deaths of Jeremy Paul Jackson and Amber Lee Anna Ogburn following a vehicle accident that occurred on County Road 215; Coffee

County finally receives some rain only days after Alabama Governor Bob Riley encourages citizens to pray for rain; Shane Casey named new principal of Elba High School.

July 12 - Town of New Brockton officials vote to give employees a cost-of-living pay raise; New Brockton officials recognize the recreation department's Dixie Belles softball



Elba City Clerk Wayne Grantham explains the operation of flood gates for bridges during the dedication ceremony of the completed levee rehabilitation project held June 1st in Elba.

team on the completion of a successful season which included an overall record of 30-4 and winning the Area 3 Sub-District Championship; County engineer Randy Tindell announces brief closure of County Rd. 239 to allow for the replacement of a cross-drain pipe; Coffee County Sheriff Dave Sutton and Chief Deputy R.W. Whitworth serve as guest speakers at Elba Lions Club meeting; Officials arrest Ken Allen Cochran on multiple charges including two counts of kidnapping first degree, burglary first degree and attempted murder.

July 19 - 2007 ISO rating inspection report for City of Elba draws difference of opinion among city officials; Alabama Attorney General visits Elba to film a news report regarding the continuing court hearings and other delays in the scheduled execution of Billy Joe Magwood for the capital murder March 1, 1979 of Coffee County Sheriff Neil Grantham; New Elba High School principal Shane Casey speaks to Elba Kiwanis Club members; County Board of Education completes personnel hires including Thomas Boswell as new head football coach at Zion Chapel; A two-vehicle wreck Monday, July 16, on Hwy. 134 near Coffee County Road 617 claims the life of a Covington County couple - Ralph Weeks and Amy Strickland Weeks; Governor Bob Riley announces \$26,040 grant to be used for a rehabilitation project at the Heflin Smith Sports Complex in Kinston.

July 26 - Elba City Council plans workshop to discuss need for additional police officers; Coffee County volunteer fire departments receive grant checks from the state's forestry commission; Red Cross conducts very successful community blood drive in Elba.

AUGUST 2007

Aug. 2 - Elba City Council finds no immediate solution to police officers shortage during scheduled work session; Annual band camp held for Elba Marching Tiger Band as program welcomes new band director Shaun Hammonds; Alabama Department of Public Health encourages frequent handwashing with Shigella cases on the rise; Bicyclist and Oregon resident Tim Janko pedals through Elba during a cross-country biking trip that began in Miami, Fla. and will end in Canyon Villes, Oregon.

Aug. 9 - As start of production draws closer, an official ribbon cutting ceremony held

Friday, Aug. 3, for Dorsey Trailers; Zion Chapel celebrates continued growth of schools with a ribbon cutting ceremony held for the completion of building renovations and construction projects; Dr. Lance K. Dyess and his family donate 30 acres of land to Zion Chapel Schools; New Brockton Mayor Charles Cole says Tyler Street is open to traffic.

Aug. 16 - ABC agents raid open house party at residence of Hickman Avenue in Elba; Vandals leave their mark on the Old Town and Teel cemeteries in rural Coffee County; Elba City School achieve 100 percent on AYP (Adequate Yearly Progress) goals for second consecutive year; Elba resident Randy Kevin Hobbs arrested in Covington County on drug-related charges.

Aug. 23 - Motorists urged to put safety first around school buses; Coffee County Commission votes no to request from request from Coffee County Firefighters Association to show support for sending a proposed Emergency Services Act to county voters for their approval or disapproval; Officials arrest Melinda Rodriguez and Sherry Kilcrease Moseley after a methamphetamine lab is located on County Rd. 355; Alabama Department of Public Health officials recommend preventative measures to avoid heat illnesses; Staff Sgt. David Rowe of Elba, a member of 3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team's cooking team, prepares pretzel delight during the Iron Chef Competition held at Forward Operating Base Hammer, Iraq.

Aug. 30 - Coffee County Commission revisits discussion on proposed Emergency Services Act; Pam Beddoe, Elba named Executive Director of the Year by the Alabama Association of Housing and Redevelopment Authorities; Elba City Council awards bids for work at airport; Linda Ingram reports good start to 2007-08 school year for Coffee County Schools; Cecilio Caballero scores four goals for

his team "Real Espana" against team "America" during the weekly soccer games played at Miller Memorial Stadium in Elba each Sunday afternoon.

SEPTEMBER 2007

Sept. 6 - Geneva County resident Wade Pendavis arrested by Coffee County officials in connection with several burglaries in Coffee County; Elba Chamber of Commerce officials announce change of date for Christmas Festival as busy season arrives; Coffee County Storytellers Club meets and urges attendees to share passion of telling stories with youth.

Sept. 13 - During very lengthy meeting, the Coffee County Commission discusses the Fiscal Year 2008 budget; Americans remember the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on the day now known as Patriot Day; Sgt. Eric Jordan awarded Army Chief of Staff coin; New Brockton resident Ricky Strickland expresses concern of using reserve officers at driver's license checkpoints; Elba City Council begins looking at Fiscal Year 2008 budget.

Sept. 20 - Fire destroys a mobile home located on Coffee County Road 355; Elba Board of Education adopts the Fiscal Year 2008 budget; New Brockton Elementary student Courtney Sconyers receives a new wheelchair from the Wal-Mart Heart Drivers; Coffee County Board of Education adopts Fiscal Year 2008 budget.

Sept. 27 - Elba Chamber of Commerce holds annual membership banquet; Elba airport temporarily closed to allow for runway resurfacing project; Elba City Council approves "bare bones" budget for Fiscal Year 2008; Elba High School Ambassadors place wreath at the foot of the Ben Ringsdorf monument in honor of POW/MIA Recognition Day; Coffee County Commission approves Fiscal Year 2008 budget.

OCTOBER 2007

Oct. 4 - The first drop deck trailer to come off the production line at the "new" Dorsey Trailers makes an appearance in the Elba High School Homecoming Parade 2007 carrying the 30-year honored class - Class of 1977; Prior to the start of the Homecoming football game Friday, Sept. 28, the Class of 1997 presents a plaque to the parents of Jason Jordan in memory of their fallen classmate killed in Iraq while serving his country; Representative Terry Spicer announces he has formed a committee to explore

the possibility of him making a bid for the U.S. House of Representatives seat; Elba City Schools receive education award from local DAR organization.

Oct. 11 - Coffee County resident Sonya Barnes arrested for promoting terroristic acts; Several residents of the Elba Nursing Home enjoy a day of fishing at the Coffee County Lake; Lamar Kelley recognized prior to the start of the Elba vs. Pike County football game as Mayor James Grimes presents

Ben Busbee during Veterans Day program.

Nov. 15 - Coffee County resident James King asks for county commission's help with County Rd. 422; Local governmental officials sign joint proclamation recognizing Farm-City Week in Coffee County; Coffee County District Attorney's

office and Department of Human Resources join forces to conduct child support roundup in November and December; County Commission presents proclamation to Pleasant Shade Missionary Baptist Church recognizing church's 100 years of service to the Lord.

Nov. 22 - Senator Jimmy Holley and Representative Terry Spicer present \$40,000 acquired through community pledge grants to help with Elba Playground project; Elba Lion's Club presents \$700 check to help Elba Rotary Club with Habitat for Humanity project in Elba; Bullock Volunteer Fire Department receives new tanker/pumper acquired through a FEMA grant.

Nov. 29 - Local hunters seek laws regarding coyotes; During Farm-City Banquet, the Elba Chamber of Commerce and Enterprise Chamber of Commerce jointly receive Spirit of

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Nov. 22 - Senator Jimmy Holley and Representative Terry Spicer present \$40,000 acquired through community pledge grants to help with Elba Playground project; Elba Lion's Club presents \$700 check to help Elba Rotary Club with Habitat for Humanity project in Elba; Bullock Volunteer Fire Department receives new tanker/pumper acquired through a FEMA grant.

Nov. 29 - Local hunters seek laws regarding coyotes; During Farm-City Banquet, the Elba Chamber of Commerce and Enterprise Chamber of Commerce jointly receive Spirit of

the possibility of him making a bid for the U.S. House of Representatives seat; Elba City Schools receive education award from local DAR organization.

SEPTEMBER 2007

Sept. 6 - Geneva County resident Wade Pendavis arrested by Coffee County officials in connection with several burglaries in Coffee County; Elba Chamber of Commerce officials announce change of date for Christmas Festival as busy season arrives; Coffee County Storytellers Club meets and urges attendees to share passion of telling stories with youth.

Sept. 13 - During very lengthy meeting, the Coffee County Commission discusses the Fiscal Year 2008 budget; Americans remember the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on the day now known as Patriot Day; Sgt. Eric Jordan awarded Army Chief of Staff coin; New Brockton resident Ricky Strickland expresses concern of using reserve officers at driver's license checkpoints; Elba City Council begins looking at Fiscal Year 2008 budget.

Sept. 20 - Fire destroys a mobile home located on Coffee County Road 355; Elba Board of Education adopts the Fiscal Year 2008 budget; New Brockton Elementary student Courtney Sconyers receives a new wheelchair from the Wal-Mart Heart Drivers; Coffee County Board of Education adopts Fiscal Year 2008 budget.

Sept. 27 - Elba Chamber of Commerce holds annual membership banquet; Elba airport temporarily closed to allow for runway resurfacing project; Elba City Council approves "bare bones" budget for Fiscal Year 2008; Elba High School Ambassadors place wreath at the foot of the Ben Ringsdorf monument in honor of POW/MIA Recognition Day; Coffee County Commission approves Fiscal Year 2008 budget.

OCTOBER 2007

Oct. 4 - The first drop deck trailer to come off the production line at the "new" Dorsey Trailers makes an appearance in the Elba High School Homecoming Parade 2007 carrying the 30-year honored class - Class of 1977; Prior to the start of the Homecoming football game Friday, Sept. 28, the Class of 1997 presents a plaque to the parents of Jason Jordan in memory of their fallen classmate killed in Iraq while serving his country; Representative Terry Spicer announces he has formed a committee to explore

the possibility of him making a bid for the U.S. House of Representatives seat; Elba City Schools receive education award from local DAR organization.

Oct. 11 - Coffee County resident Sonya Barnes arrested for promoting terroristic acts; Several residents of the Elba Nursing Home enjoy a day of fishing at the Coffee County Lake; Lamar Kelley recognized prior to the start of the Elba vs. Pike County football game as Mayor James Grimes presents

Ben Busbee during Veterans Day program.

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1 Section, 12 Pages

During New Brockton Town Council meeting

Ma-Chis Lower Creek Indian Tribe of Alabama requests office space inside town hall building

by Linda Hodge, Editor

During the first council meeting of 2008, the New Brockton Town Council voted Monday evening, Jan. 7, to support the Ma-Chis Lower Creek Indian Tribe of Alabama in efforts to improve government-to-government relationships.

James Wright, tribal chief of the Ma-Chis Lower Creek Indian Tribe of Alabama, addressed council members during Monday evening's meeting to make a request for office space in the new town hall facility (old Armory). He said the tribe has a tribal office located in New Brockton and is proud to be a part of the community.

"We have had the pleasure of being involved with a number of programs here in the area and would like to be able to establish a stronger presence here by locating one of our government offices here in New Brockton jointly in the city government owned property," Wright said as he read a prepared letter to those attending the meeting. "The Ma-Chis Tribal government requests office space to be used for our local contact for the tribe and to establish a full-time office that will allow us to work closer with the local community for the greater betterment of all people, and allow us to better serve this community with such things as grants and funding of different projects here in New Brockton."

If the request is granted, Wright said the tribal government will be used by the office space and will be furnished with office equipment at the expense of the Ma-Chis Tribe. He said the tribe is trying to expand the government-to-government relationship with New Brockton as it has with other cities in the past.

At the conclusion of Wright's presentation, Mayor Charles Cole said he would like to recommend the council approve a motion showing their support for the tribe in what they are doing. He also said he would recommend have Wright meet with council members at the next working group meeting to discuss the request further and look at what space may be available in the town hall building. After that, the mayor said the council could then look at making an official decision.

Council member Jeff White made the motion with a second from council member Vicky Harrison to support the Ma-Chis Lower Creek Indian Tribe of Alabama and to place Chief Wright on the agenda for the working group meeting set for Monday, Jan. 28, to further discuss the request. All council members in attendance (council member Richard Driskell was unable to attend Monday's meeting) voted in favor of the motion.

In his report to council members during Monday evening's meeting, Police Chief Dale Grimes said the two officers currently attending the police academy should graduate Thursday, Jan. 10, and they will begin working Friday, Jan. 11. He said this gives the police

an official decision.

Council member Cal Donnia (Howard made a motion with a second from council member Harrison to not change the ordinance.

Harrison said the ordinance is a good "check and balance" method for the town. She said before the ordinance was established people were burning any

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